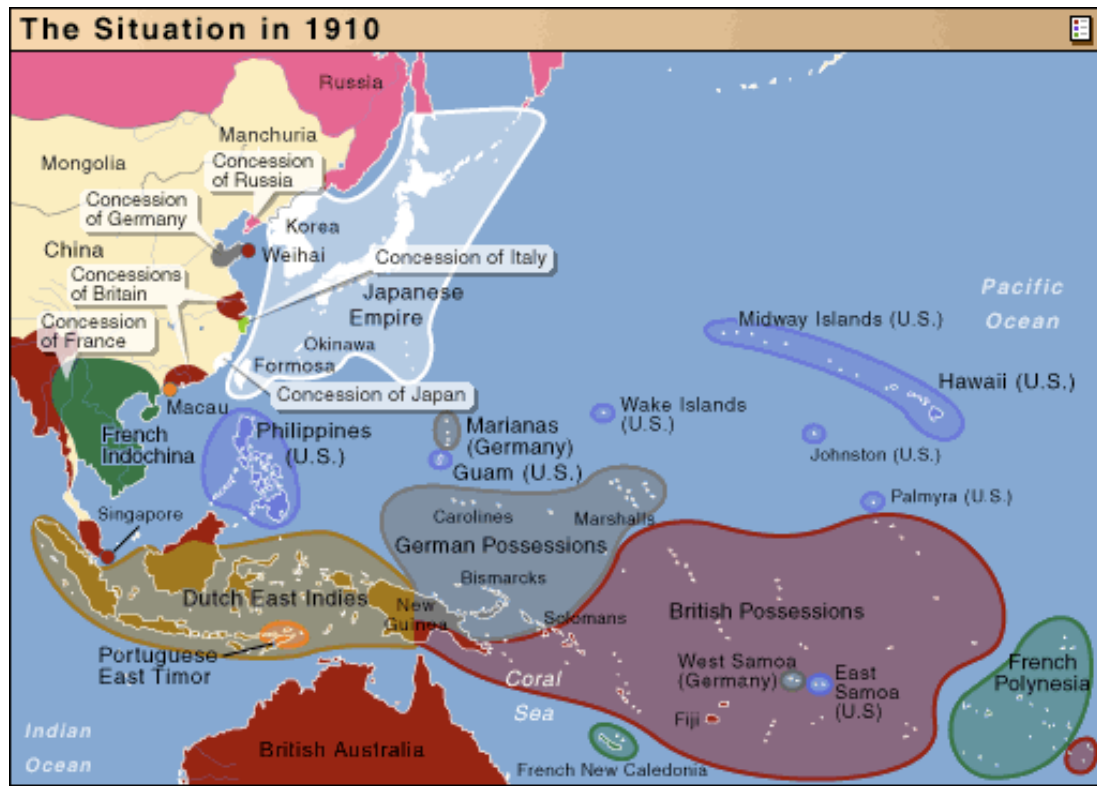


Dictators Challenge World Peace

- Japan was one of several totalitarian governments which gathered strength and expanded during the 1920s and 1930s. Their expansion challenged the power and resolve of the Allied democracies.
- In 1940 Japan, Germany and Italy would sign the Tripartite Pact, a mutual support treaty, and become the Axis powers

Japan 1910

Even before WWI and WWII, the Japanese had acquired a significant number of island territories, including Okinawa and Formosa, conquered Korea, and acquired concessions in China.



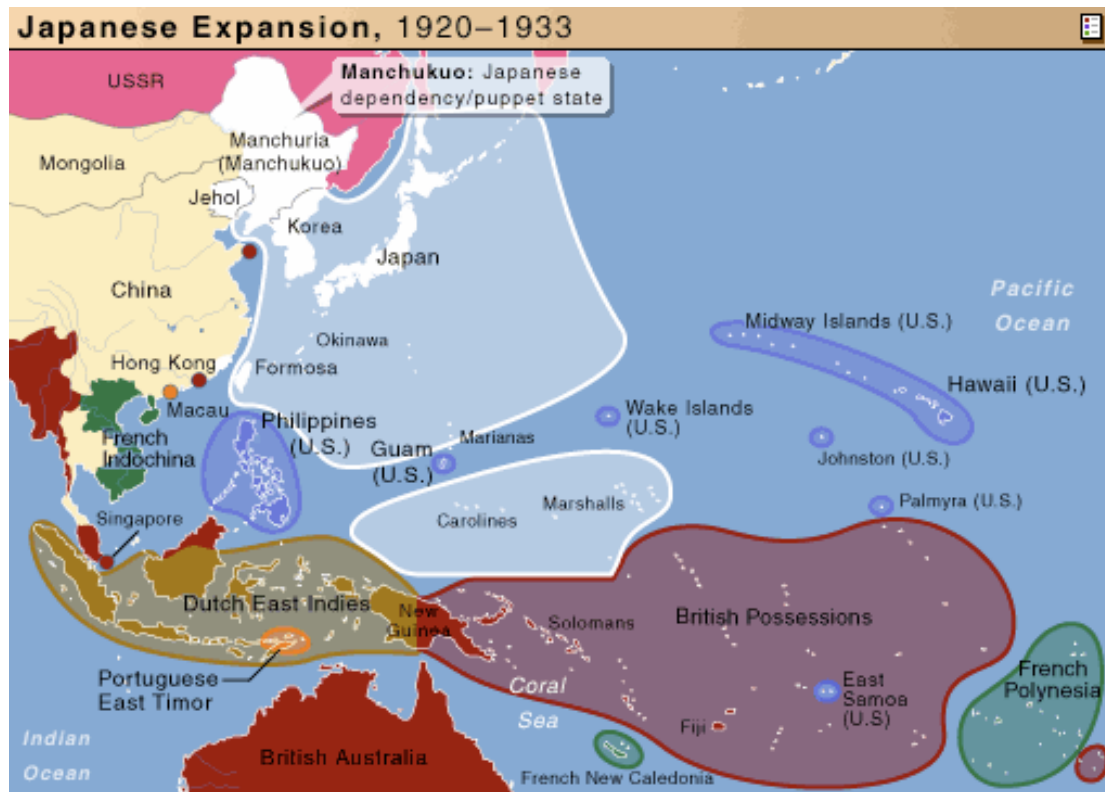
Japan 1920

In accordance with their treat with Britain, the Japanese declared war on Germany in 1914 and gained control of most of the German holdings in the Pacific north of the equator. These gains were confirmed by a League of Nations mandate in 1920.



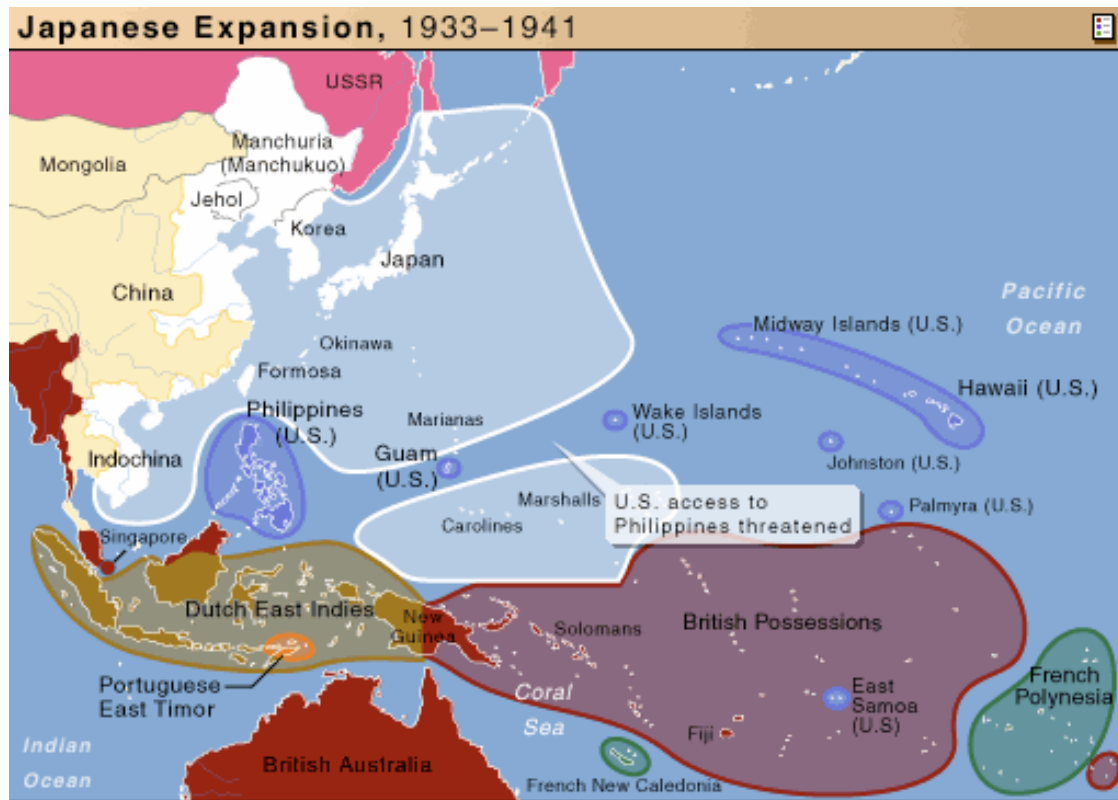
Japan 1933

The worldwide financial crisis of the early 1930's and a rapidly growing population encouraged the Japanese to expand their control of large sections of northeast China and Manchuria, which they renamed "Manchukuo." Protests by the League of Nations followed. In 1933 Japan withdrew from the League.



Japan 1940

In July 1937, Japan launched an outright, though undeclared, war against China. Conflict with Russia (to the north) and with the United States and European powers (in China and in the South Pacific) became increasingly probable. To counter these forces, Japan had already concluded an alliance with Germany in 1936. In 1940, after the Germans defeated France, Japan occupied coastal sections of French Indochina.

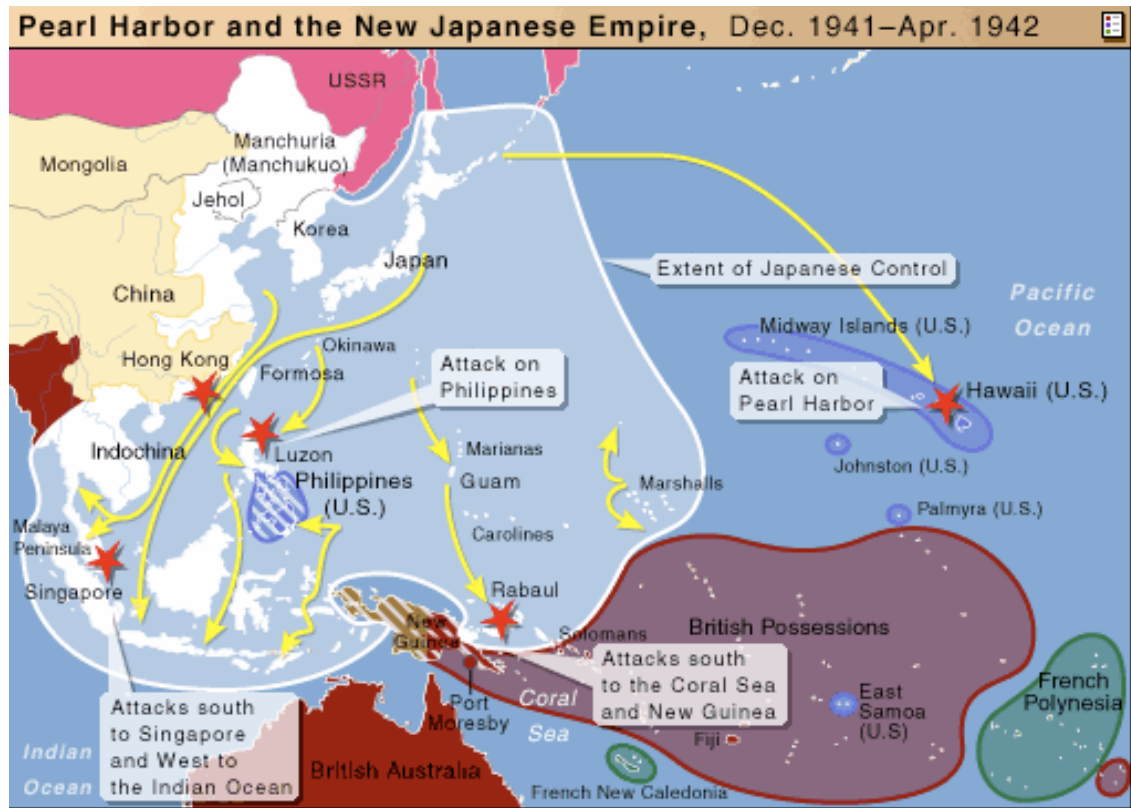


U.S. Challenges Japanese Expansion

- Japanese expansion in the Pacific threatened U.S. (as well as British and Dutch) interests in Asia.
- The U.S. demanded Japanese withdrawal from China and Indochina, and stopped sale of war related raw materials to Japan.
- August 1941 - the U.S. placed an embargo on its sale of oil to Japan (80% of Japan's supply), and closed the Panama Canal to Japanese vessels.

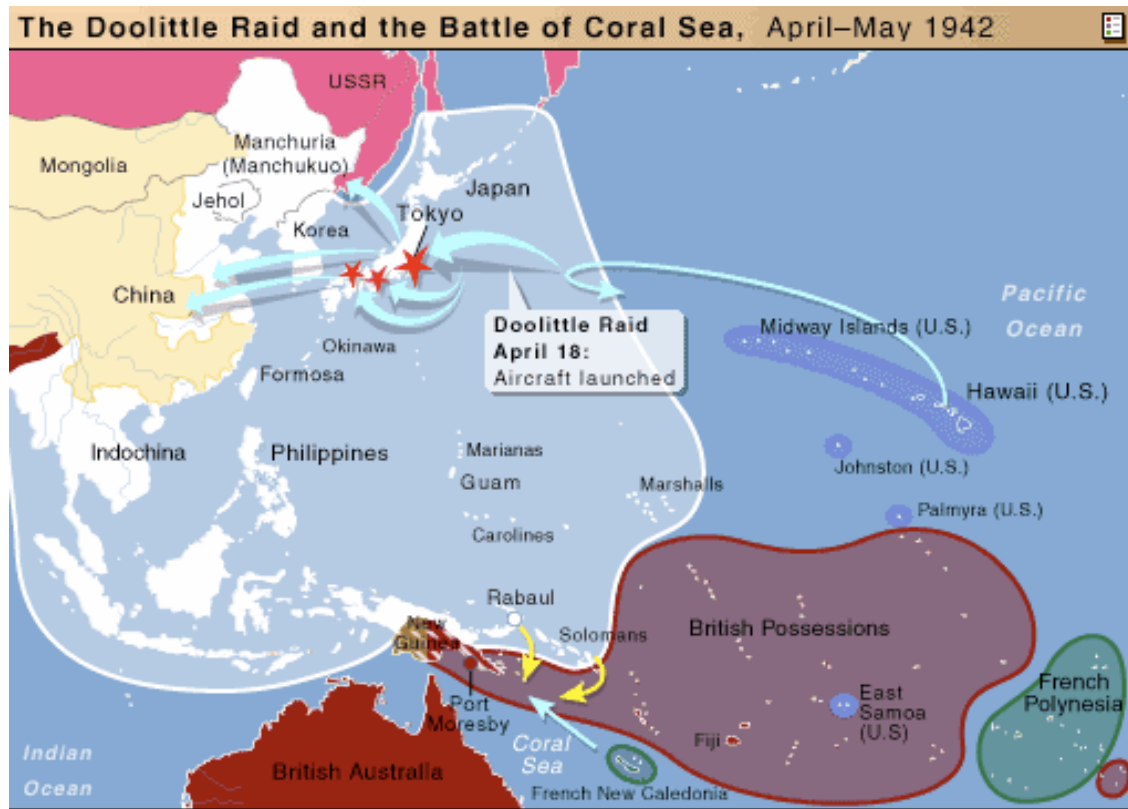
Japan 1942 - April

In response to U.S. economic sanctions, Japan ultimately launched a surprise preemptive attack against U.S. forces at Pearl Harbor (December 7, 1941). At the same time, the Japanese also successfully attacked the Philippines, the Malay Peninsula, and the East Indies. By early 1942 the Japanese empire stretched from Southeast Asia to the western Pacific Ocean.



Japan 1942 - May

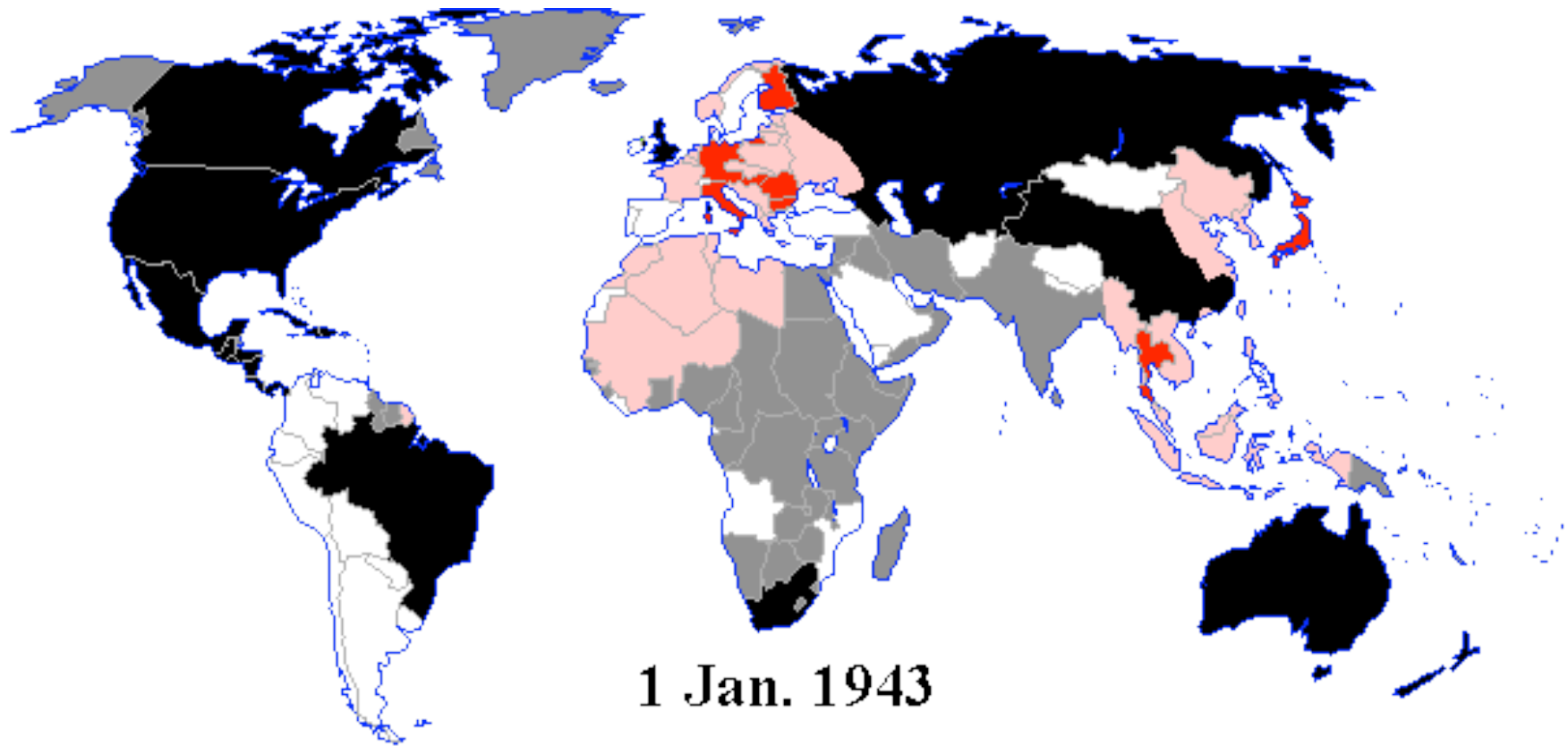
The U.S. lost its entire battleship fleet at Pearl Harbor, but its aircraft carriers were not in Pearl Harbor on the morning of the attack. In April 1942, carrier launched U.S. bombers attacked Japan (the Doolittle Raid). In May 1942 the U.S. and Japanese navies engaged in the first of several "carrier" battles in the Coral Sea (May 1942). Though the result was inconclusive, Japanese expansion had been halted.



Allied Successes

- By mid to late 1942 Axis powers (primarily Germany and Japan) had conquered most of Europe and much of Asia and the Pacific.
- This was the height of Axis world domination.
- By the summer of 1945 the Axis powers would be utterly defeated.

Axis Advances



■ Allied Nations	■ Axis Nations
■ Allied Occupied Territory	■ Axis Occupied Territory

Life for the Conquered

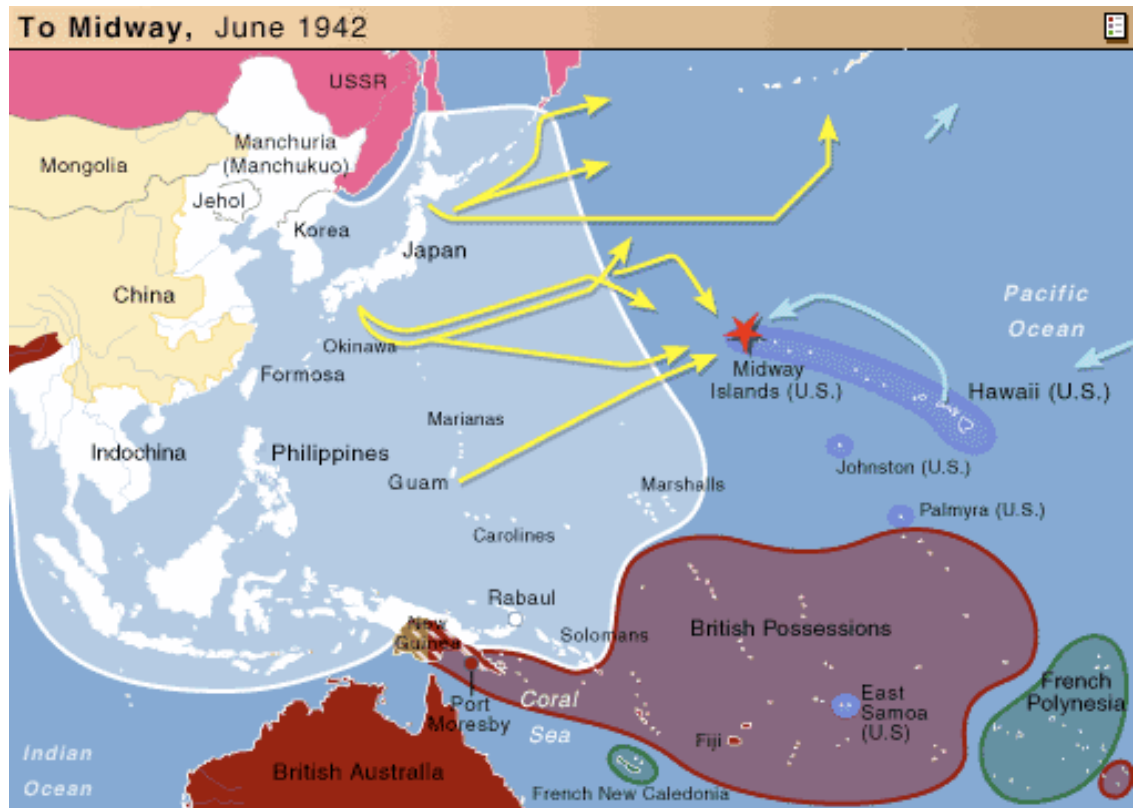
- Life for those peoples conquered by the Axis powers was difficult and often short.
- Japan
 - Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere
 - The Rape of Nanking
 - Bataan Death March
 - Slave Labor
 - Brutal repression of dissent



Aitape, New Guinea, 1943. Australian POW, Sgt Leonard Siffleet, about to be beheaded. Executioner Yasuno Chikao, later sentenced to hanging, had his sentence commuted to 10 years imprisonment.

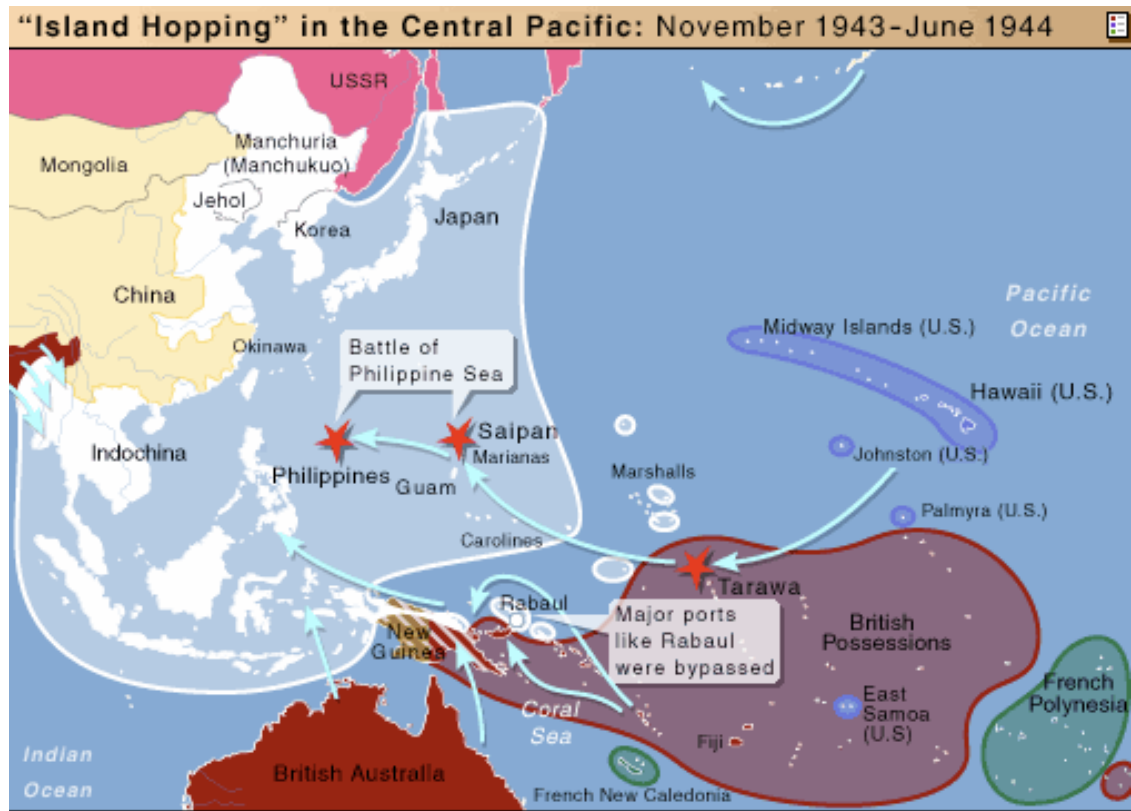
Japan 1942 - June

Determined to destroy the U.S. carrier force in another "surprise" attack, the Japanese sent a vastly superior force to attack the U.S. naval base at Midway. Having broken the Japanese naval code and knowing the plans for the attack, the U.S. forces were able to sink all four of the Japanese carriers participating in the attack and force the Japanese fleet to withdraw. This was the turning point the the war in the Pacific.



Japan 1943-44

In 1943, following bloody battles on Guadalcanal and Tarawa, the U.S. began pursuing a strategy of "island hopping" whereby the most heavily fortified islands were simply bypassed. At the battle of the Philippine Sea in June 1944, seventeen U.S. carriers and their new Hellcat fighter bombers overwhelmed Japanese forces opening the way for attacks on the Japanese home islands.

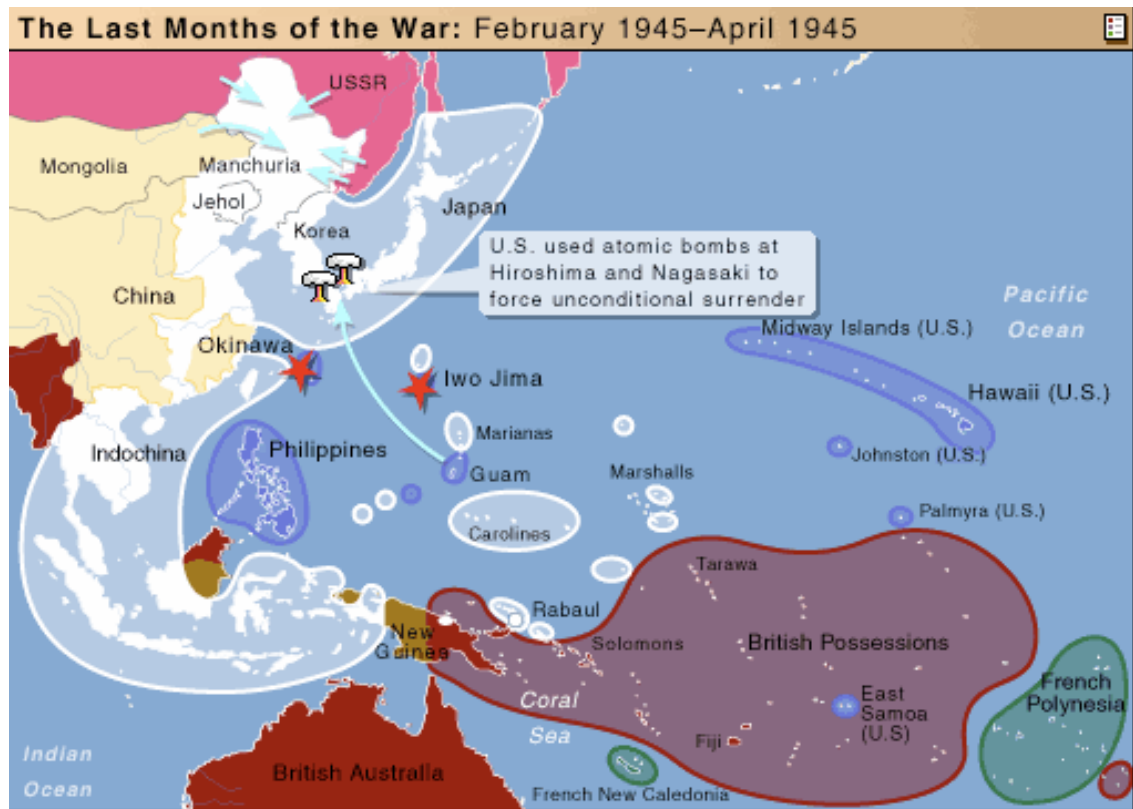


VE and Potsdam

- On May 8, 1944, Germany surrendered unconditionally to the Allies, ending WWII in Europe
- In July of 1945 the Allies, including the Soviet Union, issued the Potsdam Declaration stating that Japan must surrender unconditionally or face “prompt and utter destruction”

Japan 1945

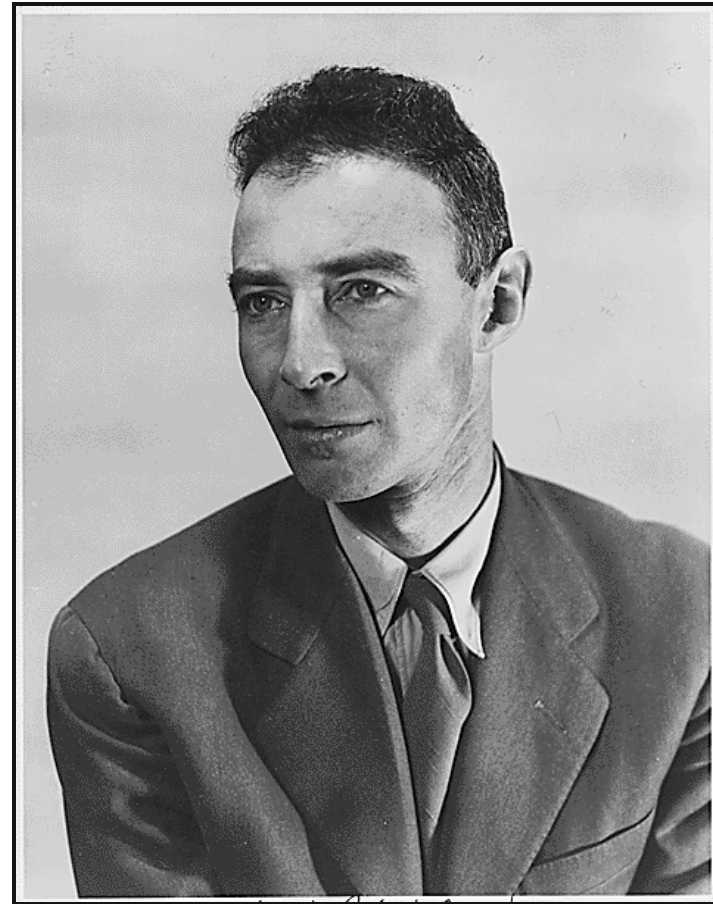
In February 1945 the U.S. fleet attacked Iwo Jima, and then in April 1945 Okinawa. Japan itself could now be bombed with impunity. Incendiary bombs had a devastating effect on the largely wooden structures in Japan's cities. In August 1945 the U.S., determined to prevent further losses of its own troops, used atomic bombs at Hiroshima and Nagasaki to force an unconditional surrender of Japan.



Manhattan Project Leaders

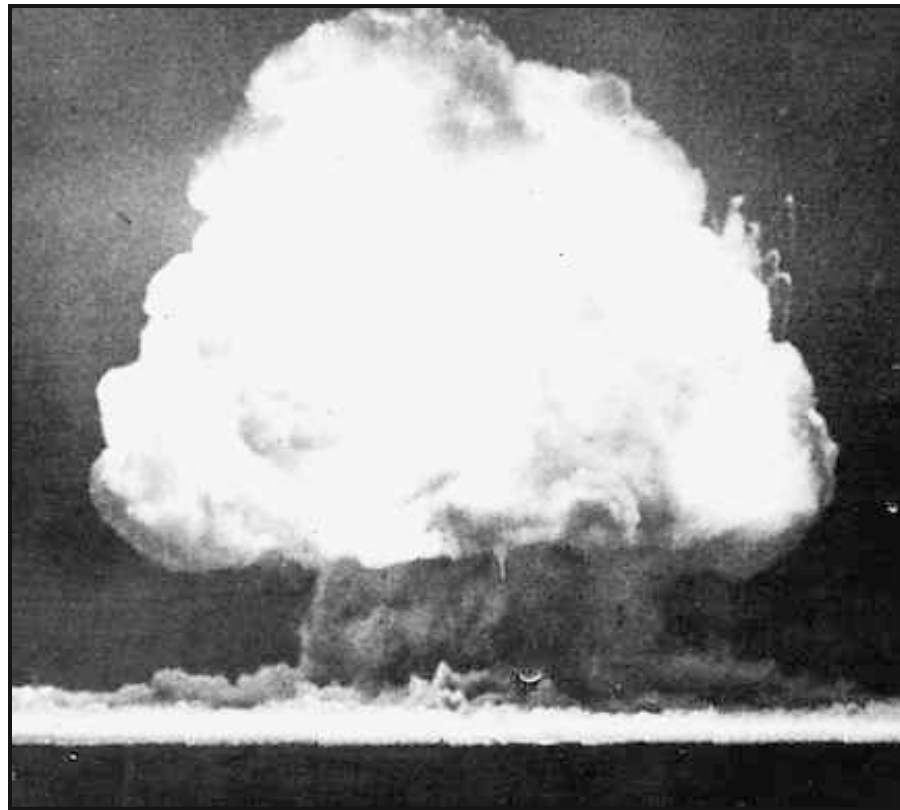


General Leslie Groves



J Robert Oppenheimer

Trinity - July 16, 1945



“Now, I am become death, the destroyer of worlds.”

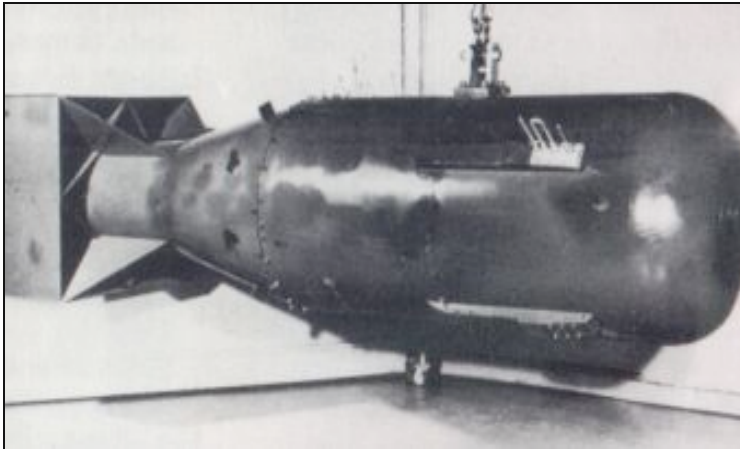
J. Robert Oppenheimer quoting the Bhagavad-Gita after watching the test of the first atomic bomb.

The Enola Gay



The specially modified B-29 used to drop the first atomic bomb.

The Bombs



“Little Boy” the bomb dropped on Hiroshima.



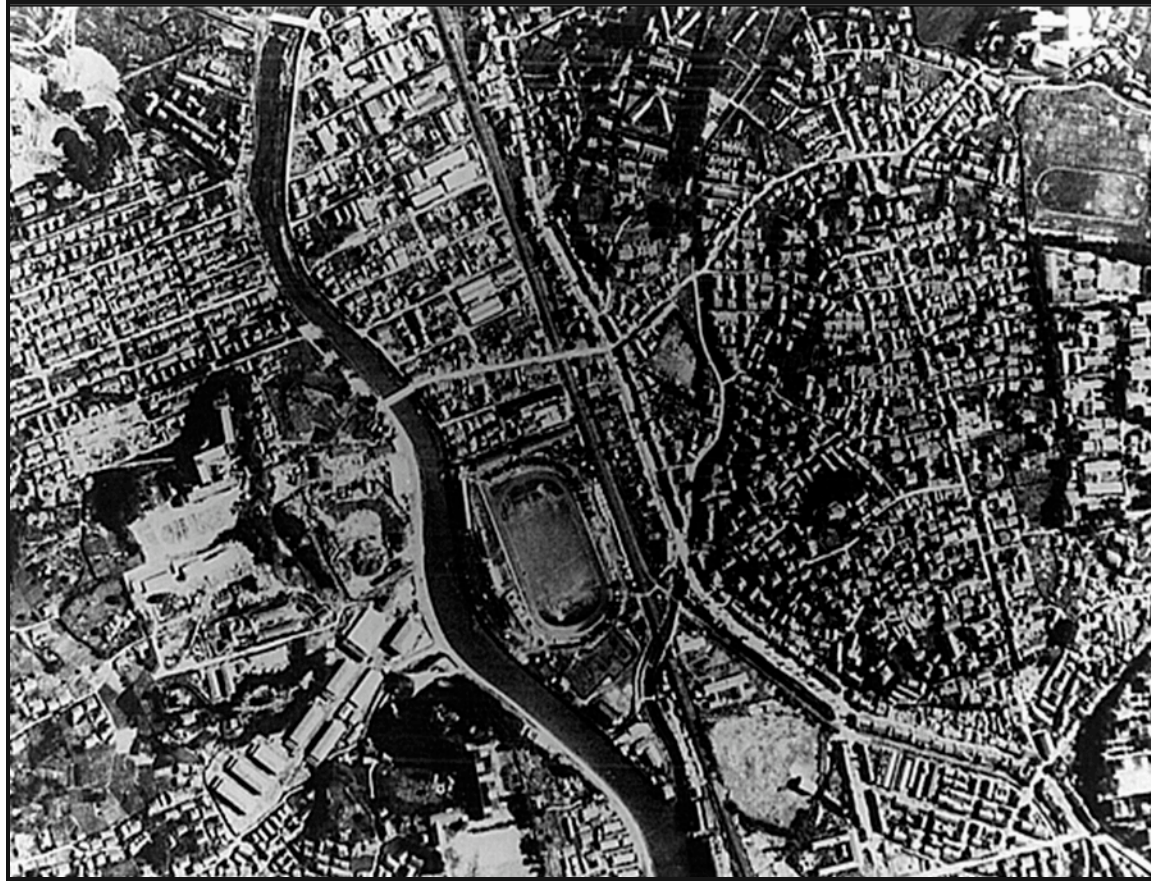
“Fat Man” the bomb dropped on Nagasaki.

Hiroshima



Downtown Hiroshima after the bomb.

Nagasaki Disappears



Nagasaki before the bomb.

Nagasaki Disappears



Nagasaki after the bomb.

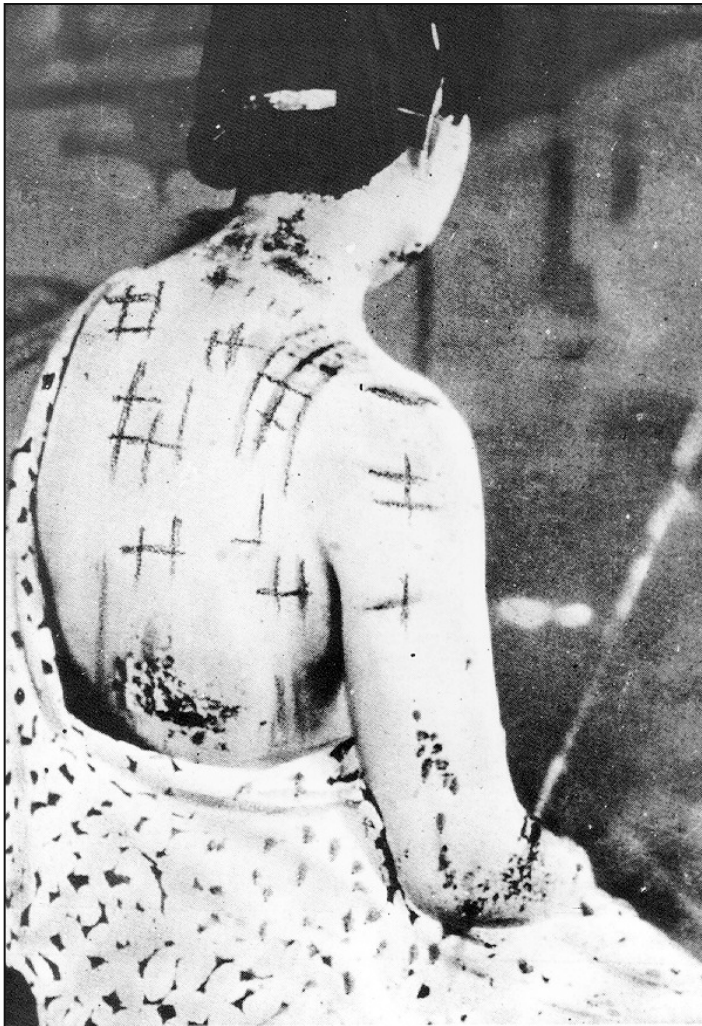
The “Survivors”



The “Survivors”



The “Survivors”



The “Survivors”





Post-War Occupation

- Japan was controlled by the Allies from 1945 until 1952
- The Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (SCAP) was U.S. General Douglas MacArthur
- As SCAP, MacArthur had so much power that he was referred to as the “blue-eyed shogun”



The Second Opening of Japan

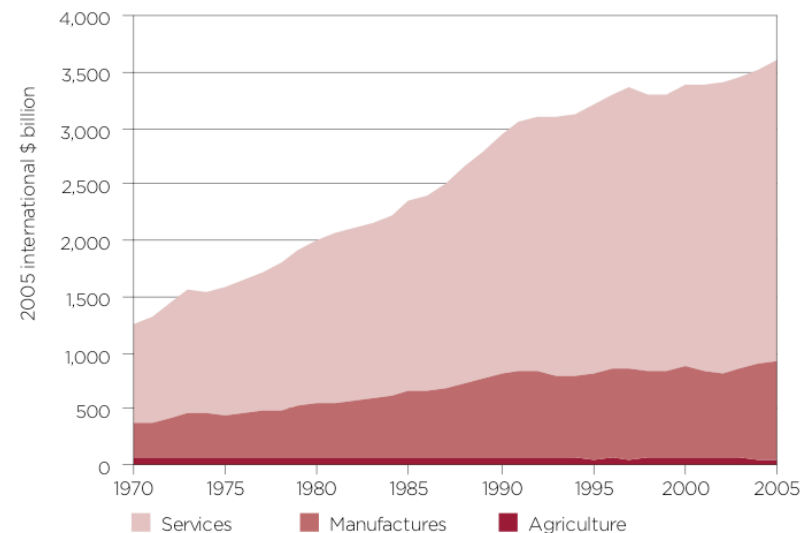
- Although the Japanese feared that Allied occupation would be cruel, it was not
- Under MacArthur's leadership:
 - The Emperor issued the "Human Being Declaration"
 - Hunger relief was undertaken
 - Education for democratic citizenry
 - Trial and execution of war criminals
 - Japan was demilitarized
 - Major land reform redistributed land
 - Lessened Zaibatsu control over the economy

A New Constitution

- In 1947 MacArthur had a new more democratic constitution created for Japan which included:
 - Universal suffrage
 - Both houses of Parliament fully elected
 - Human rights guarantees
 - All persons (even the Emperor) are equal before the law
 - Marriage by mutual consent
 - The Diet (Parliament) as the highest governmental body
 - Rights of workers to organize and bargain

Japan's Economic Miracle

- Japan's economy struggled as it rebuilt
- During the Korean War (1950-1953), however, Japan became a major supplier for the U.S. lead forces
- Between 1953 and 1973 Japan experienced double digit growth in its Gross Domestic Product
- By 1973, Japan had the world's 3rd largest GDP, and today it has the 2nd largest



U.S. Troops in Japan?

- Under treaties between Japan and the U.S., and in keeping with the Japanese Constitution, Japan does not have a military
- The defense of Japan is the obligation of the U.S. and the U.S. has maintained over 30,000 troops in Japan during the cold war and up to today
- Many within Japan and the U.S. would like to see the U.S. military presence in Japan reduced or eliminated

